

INDIVIDUAL INCOME

MeF ACCEPTANCE TESTING GUIDE

1. General Information

The Utah State Tax Commission (USTC) participates in the Federal/State e-file Program sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). This program offers an efficient and cost effective method of filing both federal and state tax returns.

Participation in the Utah program requires applicants to first gain acceptance into the IRS e-file program. USTC supports the official set of IRS rules governing participation in the program. IRS publications 3112 and 1345 and internet site <http://www.irs.gov/efile> describe the application and acceptance procedures, and informs participants in the federal Modernized e-File program of their specific obligations.

2. Annual Participants of Acceptance Testing

All participants in the Utah program must first have followed the IRS testing procedures and been accepted into their electronic filing program, Software Developers are further required to test their software with Utah. USTC will provide state Test Packages based upon the data in the Federal Test Packages. Participants must transmit the returns to USTC, via the Modernized e-File (MeF) program. Test scenarios must be accepted with no error reject codes and match expected results before the software can be accepted into the electronic filing program for the upcoming Tax Year. Participants can make corrections to rejected files and/or returns and re-transmit as many times as necessary until all the returns in the Test Package are accepted.

Only software from a Software Developer that has been tested and approved by the IRS and the USTC for the electronic submission of Utah returns may submit Utah returns. Any returns submitted with unapproved software will be automatically rejected.

2.1 Electronic Management System

For complete details relating the implementation and Testing of the EMS (Legacy) process, please see Publication 59, <http://tax.utah.gov/forms/pubs/pub-59.pdf>

2.2 Modernized e-File Testing

Any Participant sending MeF returns to the UTSC must be approved before their returns will be accepted. Approval is necessary for each Tax Year you wish to file via MeF.

To begin testing with the USTC, contact our e-File team at mef@utah.gov Please provide your test ETIN(s) and Name(s), Email address(s), and Direct phone number(s) for each person that will be working with our e-File team. You may download the Test Returns contained on this page. The direct link to the MeF page is <http://www.tax.utah.gov/mef/2009income/>

Please prepare the Test Returns with your software exactly as they are provided so we can quickly determine if the content of the submitted returns matches the test scenarios. If you find errors or other inconsistencies in the test returns, notify us so we can correct the test returns.

When sending test returns, be sure to send email to mef@utah.gov including the Submission Ids of the returns you want processed. If you do not send the submission ids, your test returns will not be processed correctly in our testing environment. Once you have submitted the test returns and submission ids, you should be able to retrieve the Receipt and Acknowledgment Files within one business day. If any of your returns are rejected for schema errors or business rule violations, please correct the return and resubmit.

Once all of the Test Returns are processed successfully, you should receive approval within a week, depending on the volume of test returns we are currently processing. **Submit your returns early to ensure you are approved before peak filing begins.**

Once you are approved, provide us with your Production ETIN(s) and direct contact information for anyone we may need to contact regarding production issues.

If you would like to submit additional test cases to test different options contained in your software, contact us. Processing additional tests will follow the same procedure outlined above.

3. Testing Dates

Here are the dates the Test and Production environments will be available for the IRS and USTC servers.

Tax Year	Test or Prod	IRS Servers	USTC Servers
2010	Test	11/2/2010	11/15/2010

		(current manifest) 12/6/2010 (w/ new manifest)	
2010	Production	1/18/2010	1/17/2011
2007 - 2009	Test	Check with IRS	Currently Available
2007 - 2009	Production	Check with IRS	Currently Available